

ly, Leah, Kitty, Louisa and Hetty, petitioners for freedom to the county court of said county.

By order,

George A. Farquhar, Clk.

The resolution therein contained being assented to, was sent to the senate for concurrence.

Mr. M. Mahon, chairman of the select committee therein mentioned, delivered the following report; which was read the first time and ordered to lie on the table, viz.

The committee to whom were referred the several communications relative to the proceedings of the executive under the act of 1825, chapter 129, authorising the purchase or erection of state warehouses for the inspection of tobacco; and to the appointment of a temporary agent for the preservation of the state's property within the city of Baltimore, and the collection of the wharfage arising from said property; and also a resolution submitted to this house on the 6th instant, relative to the mode of procuring materials for the new state tobacco warehouse now erecting in the city of Baltimore, submit the following report:

In the consideration of the subjects above referred to them, your committee have not deemed it necessary to travel beyond the objects to which the above mentioned orders and resolutions relate. The documents which have been submitted to them are very numerous, and comprise an entire view of all the executive proceedings in relation to the purchase or erection of the state tobacco warehouses, and would furnish a very interesting history of the establishment of this new system of inspection. Many of them, however, have no immediate connection with the subjects to which the attention of your committee have been particularly directed; and it would therefore be unnecessary to present a detailed view of them. The objects of the present enquiry seem to relate to the proceedings of the executive in reference to the erection of a new state tobacco warehouse, the preservation of the state's property within the city of Baltimore, and the collection of wharfage upon the same; and they impose upon the committee the duty of examining them for the purpose of ascertaining the manner in which said building is to be erected, and of determining what other legislative provisions are necessary to ensure the execution of this work, upon the best possible terms, as may be proper, in order to the preservation of the state's property within the city of Baltimore, or the enjoyment of the wharfage which may be derived from it.

The law of 1825, chapter 159, under which the governor and council derived these powers with reference to the state tobacco warehouses, authorised them to contract upon the best terms for the building of the same, or to purchase and build; and if they elected to build, they were authorised to purchase a lot or lots for that purpose, and to take bond from the person contracting to build for the faithful execution of his contract. In the exercise of these powers they elected to build a new warehouse upon the property condemned for that purpose